

HARDING DAMPENS HOPES OF THE BONUS RAIDERS

Continued from First Page.

President was whether the McCumber bill provided any revenue to pay for the benefits proposed by it. Senator McCumber and his associates were compelled to admit it did not. They attempted to convince the President, however, that the bill would not involve any serious drain on the already strained Government finances because the payments had been distributed over a protracted period, which, in their judgment, would not impose excessive burdens on the taxpayers of the country.

The President is understood to have manifested lively interest in the ultimate source of revenue which Mr. McCumber and his associates had in mind in framing the bill. He was informed of the conviction of these Senators that repayments of foreign loans would provide the money to finance the initial obligations, which they estimated at \$77,000,000 for the coming year.

Expect to Get British Help.

The President asked upon what information the committee based its confidence that such a source of revenue would be available. He was informed that the supporters of the bonus measure had reason to believe Great Britain would be ready to begin refunding operations to this Government by the first of July.

The President indicated his surprise that any such impression should exist in the Senatorial mind when the Government itself is not in possession of any direct information that would justify it. The President then called the attention of his Senatorial callers to his letter to Mr. Fordney in which he suggested the adoption of a sales tax to finance the bonus or postponement of the legislation until the country is in better condition to stand it.

President's Disclosure.

In the general discussion of every aspect of the bonus scheme the President declared that he had received proposals from a number of volunteer

sources regarding the method for financing it without creating a chaotic condition throughout the country. He even intimated that he had requested competent authorities to prepare plans for making the bonus possible. He indicated a pretentious stack of suggestions along this line on his desk and intimated that none of them had met the objections raised by the Treasury Department and thousands of people throughout the country who have communicated their views to him.

Discussion of the political features of the bonus developed the fact that the President and other leaders of his party were of the opinion that it would be unwise to ignore the convention pledges for economy and retrenchment by imposing further burdens on the country in the way of taxation for which the party would be held responsible.

The President expressed sympathy with some of the phases of the bonus proposition and according to one of his callers said if the economic conditions of the country were favorable he would urge the redemption of political promises made by him and other candidates, vague and indefinite as they were. He stressed the importance of keeping faith with the people to administer the Government as economically as possible and to render the fullest assistance in encouraging rehabilitation of agriculture and every other form of business which are still suffering from depression consequent on the war.

President Most Sympathetic.

The Senatorial participants in the conference agreed that the President had been "most sympathetic." He expressed regrets that the Treasury could not stand such a stupendous drain as that proposed by the bonus. He said he would give earnest consideration to the McCumber bill and the paid up insurance certificate measure which Senator Smoot, its author, will explain to him on Monday.

The President added that while he could not add any suggestions to those contained in his letter to Mr. Fordney he would think the matter over after consulting with Secretary Mellon and communicate his views regarding the two bonus proposals to Senator McCumber in a few days.

The impression, justified by the statements made by Senator McCumber and his associates on leaving the White House, harmonized beautifully with the downpour of rain that fell

from dark and lowering clouds. To the newspaper correspondents, Senators McCumber, Watson and Curtis briefly said no conclusions had been reached. They admitted the President "did not accept" the McCumber bill, but hastened to add that "neither did he reject it." Senator Watson supplemented this information with the statement that "it has a 50-50 chance," but he didn't say which way.

Within ten minutes after the Senatorial delegation had left the White House the President sent for Secretary Mellon. The Treasury chief went over from his department, and for half an hour joined with the President in scrutinizing the McCumber offering. On his return to his department the Secretary sent for Assistant Secretary Gilbert and Actuary McCoy, and instructed them to prepare an analysis of the McCumber measure, showing the probable cost of it and estimating its effect upon the Treasury, banking interests and business affairs of the country.

Report Sent to President.

This was sent to the President late this afternoon, and will be used by him in preparing his reply to the request of the bonus Senators that he approve of the document.

The effect of the information brought from the White House by Mr. McCumber and his associates was to complicate further the plans of the Senators who are determined to put through a bonus bill regardless of the consequences. A conference of the leaders was held in the afternoon at which the interview between the President and his Senatorial callers was discussed.

The Senators who had not participated in the White House conference appeared to find very little room for comfort in the description of the attitude of the President brought by the emissaries. It can best be summarized in the words of one of the participants in the conference, who is against the bonus:

"The truth is McCumber and his crowd don't know what they are going to do about the bonus. It all depends on the President. If he turns his thumbs down on the McCumber and Smoot plans—as we all think he will—the bonus crowd will have to turn to something else or jam either one through (probably the first) in the face of a certain veto. That's all that can be said about the situation at present."

Disturbing Complications Likely.

The unfavorable outlook for the McCumber plan plus the objections to the Smoot plan on the part of the

American Legion is likely to lead to some disturbing complications next week. The fact is that it already has caused a change in the program of the bonus supporters.

A meeting of the Finance Committee had been called for Monday to put the finishing touches on the McCumber scheme and prepare it for presentation to the Senate. The Finance Committee's chairman informed the Senate yesterday that the bonus bill would be ready within a week and that the tariff bill would be laid aside temporarily to permit its passage. This afternoon Mr. McCumber said the Goldstein nomination, against which there is great objection, would be taken up by the committee on Monday. The bonus scheme which was to get the right of way, now takes third place.

In Senatorial discussions of the White House conference the most definite suggestion that cropped out was that if President Harding disapproved the McCumber and Smoot bills "the bonus might be laid aside for a couple of months to see what will happen." The great majority of Senators in both parties will oppose this scheme because they want to get the bonus out of the way.

Definite Action Wanted.

The Senators who called upon the President to-day were of the impression that he would personally like the matter disposed of so that legislative attention can be concentrated on measures that he regards of vital importance to the country and his party. The more ardent bonus Senators will probably insist the program decided on at the party conference three weeks ago be carried out. This contemplated the framing and reporting of a bonus bill to the Senate by Wednesday next.

Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin informed the conference that if the bill had not been reported by that time he would move to discharge the Finance Committee from further consideration of it. The Wisconsin Senator was still of the same mind this afternoon. He will be encouraged to press his motion by party associates who want to get themselves on record in favor of the bonus regardless of the views that the President will communicate regarding the McCumber and Smoot proposals.

The chief influence in dictating this course is the apprehension of the more ardent bonus Republicans that the Democrats will seek such partisan advantages as may pertain by initiating the move contemplated by Mr. Lenroot.

If the bonus Republicans carry out their program they will probably be able to compel the discharge of the

Finance Committee from the McCumber bill because of the certainty that the majority of Democratic Senators will cooperate with them in such an undertaking.

Test of Strength.

The test of actual bonus strength will come over this proposition because it is quite evident that the majority leaders in the Senate will line themselves up back of the President. The next step to the possible success of the bonus advocates will be to set the tariff bill aside and take up the bonus. If this should succeed and the bonus bill is passed the Senators who are eager to win the political support of ex-service men will rest fairly content.

They are justified in believing the House will accept any bill passed by the Senate; also that the House will repass the bill over the Presidential veto. But when it comes to the Senate that is another matter. Even the most ardent bonus Senators concede the improbability of the repassage of any measure over the veto of the President by two-thirds majority of the Senators present.

It is the belief of the majority of Republican Senators that even Senators Lodge and Watson, who have up to date been advocates of the bonus, would oppose any attempt to override a Presidential veto.

The sum and substance of the whole situation, therefore, is that the fate of the bonus rests solely in the hands of the President. It would occasion the greatest surprise if his firmly established views should be modified to the extent of sanctioning any bill produced to date. Bonus Senators who are determined to put through a measure probably keep trying to concoct a scheme that will win his approval.

VETERANS BUREAU ATTACKED BY ASHURST

WASHINGTON, May 6.—An attack on the Veterans Bureau and the special Senate Hospitalization Committee was made to-day in the Senate by Senator

Ashurst (Dem., Ariz.), who declared that the "narrow, reactionary policy" of the bureau was that sick veterans who had gone to Arizona could die there without aid or go where the bureau directed for treatment.

Senator Ashurst said more than 1,000 veterans suffering with tuberculosis who had gone into his State believing the climate there would aid them were in need of hospitalization, and that he had taken the matter up with the President and the Veterans Bureau, but that little relief had been given. He asserted that the bureau offered to take care of the men elsewhere but that they preferred the dry climate in Arizona and New Mexico and refused to leave.

The Senator demanded that the special Senate committee either go to Arizona to make an investigation or resign, declaring that unless they heeded his demand he would go into their States and "tell the truth about them."

Senators Walsh (Dem., Mass.) and Calder (Rep., N. Y.), members of the committee, replied it would be impossible for the committee to visit all States that sought hospitalization facilities.



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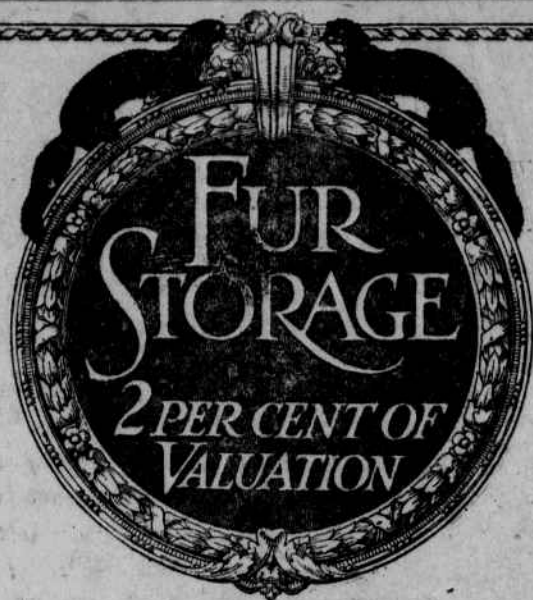
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Supreme Court Justice John M. Tierney yesterday granted \$100 weekly alimony and \$1,000 counsel fees to Mrs. Anna Reinheimer, formerly of 78 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn, pending outcome of her suit for divorce against Charles Reinheimer, an ex-jockey. Mrs. Reinheimer asked for \$400 weekly alimony and \$3,500 in counsel fees. The action is based on alleged misconduct.



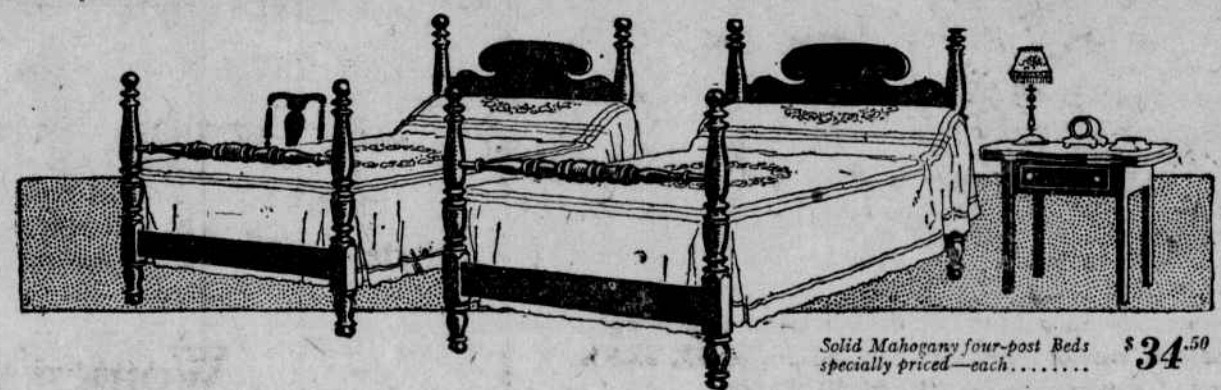
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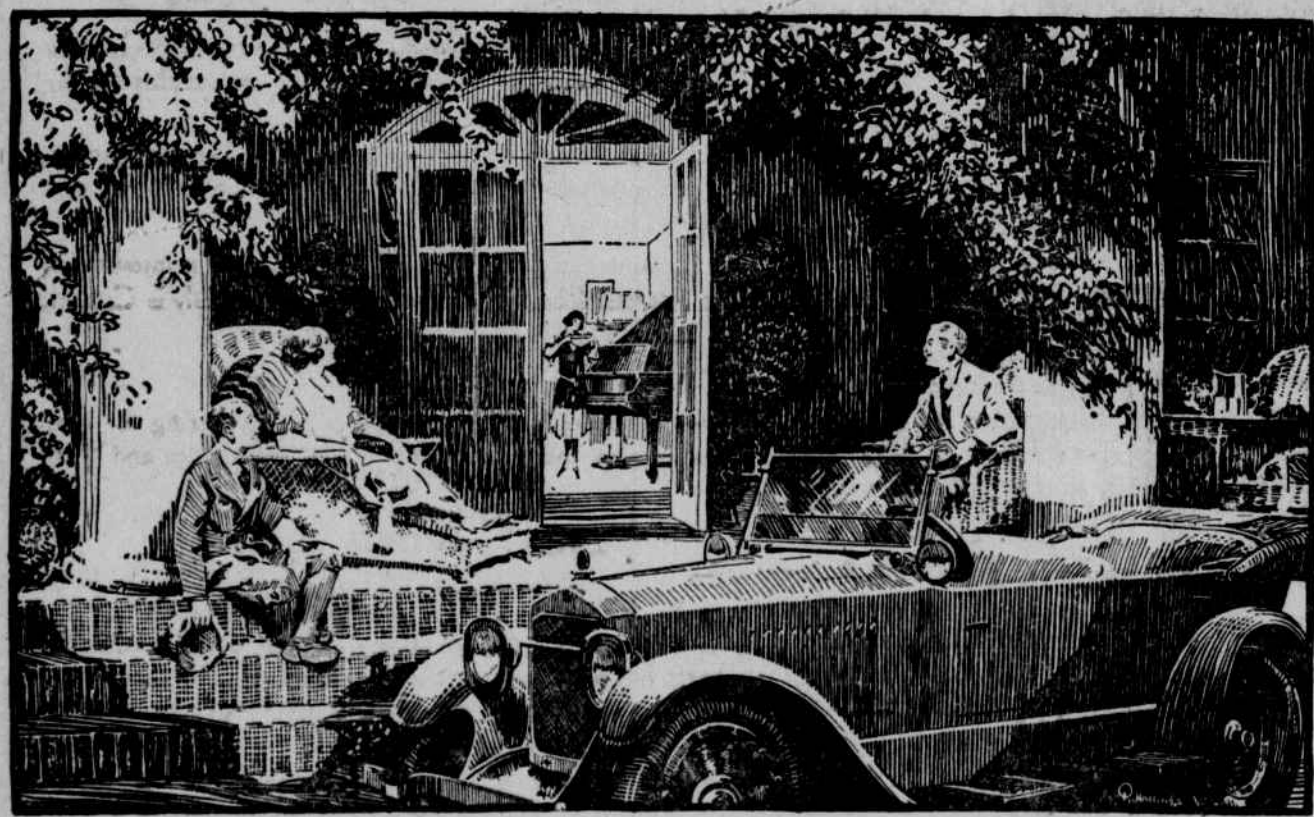
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| Thirty-seven Patterns of Mahogany Four-Post Beds—all reduced. Prices from \$29.50 to \$140.00. | | Mahogany Dresser, 44 inches wide. Was \$95.00. Now.... | \$78.00 |
| Mahogany Chiffonade, 24 by 36 inches. Was \$92.00. Now.... | \$67.50 | The Mahogany Post Colonial Bedroom Suite to match illustrated Dresser (7 pieces including Twin Beds) is reduced from \$410.00 to \$305.00. | |
| Scroll Colonial Secretary in Mahogany, 36 inches wide. Formerly \$145.00..... | \$118.00 | Scroll Colonial Bedroom Suite, SALE Mahogany. 6 pieces, with full PRICE width Bed. Formerly \$420.00.. \$340.00 With Twin Beds; was \$495.00.. \$397.00 | |
| Mahogany Ladder Back Chair with Rush Seat. Was \$34.00..... | \$29.00 | Colonial Dining Suite of simple dignified lines; 10 pieces. Formerly \$535.00..... | \$340.00 |
| Mahogany Gateleg Table with drawer; 48 inches in diameter. Was \$58.00..... | \$49.00 | Mahogany Chest of four drawers; fluted columns; 30 inches wide. Was \$82.00..... | \$54.00 |
| Governor Winthrop Desk, 38 inches wide, in Mahogany. Formerly \$145.00..... | \$105.00 | Scroll Colonial Desk in Mahogany; 36 inches wide. Was \$88.00..... | \$72.00 |
| Scroll Colonial Bed, twin or full size. Formerly \$85.00..... | \$68.00 | Mahogany Spinet Desk, 34 inches wide. Was \$45.00..... | \$37.50 |
| Solid Mahogany Secretary with Arch Top; 28 inches wide. Formerly \$90.00..... | \$72.00 | Mahogany Extension Gateleg Table, 46 by 54 inches, extending PRICE to 76 inches. Was \$70.00..... | \$57.00 |
| Governor Winthrop Secretary in Mahogany; 38 inches wide. Was \$225.00. Now..... | \$165.00 | Crotch Mahogany Bedroom Suite of 9 pieces. Was \$1,275.00..... | \$985.00 |
| Mahogany Windsor Chair in Mahogany. Was \$26.00. Now.... | \$18.50 | Early American Dining Suite in Crotch Mahogany; fluted columns; 10 pieces. Formerly \$975.00.. | \$487.50 |
| Seventy-eight Patterns of Mahogany Windsor Chairs—all reduced—ranging in price from \$9.50 to \$42.00. | | Mahogany Lowboy, 36 inches wide. Was \$80.00. Now.... | \$59.00 |
| Quaint Colonial Bedroom Suite, SALE painted and hand decorated; your PRICE own selection of color and decoration; 7 pieces. Formerly \$580.00.. | \$480.00 | Colonial Secrétaire Desk, 36 inches wide; carved columns, claw and ball feet. Formerly \$225.00..... | \$190.00 |
| Mahogany Highboy, 40 inches wide and 88 inches high, with Arch Top. Was \$210.00..... | \$165.00 | Mahogany Highboy, 36 inches wide and 52 inches high. Was \$160.00..... | \$137.50 |
| Mahogany Bookcase; 72 inches long; 3 doors and adjustable shelves. Was \$170.00. Now..... | \$128.00 | Claw and Ball Foot Mahogany Desk, 37 inches wide. Formerly \$122.00..... | \$95.00 |
| | | Mahogany Laid Desk, 26 inches wide. Was \$29.00..... | \$24.50 |

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